

ABSTRACT

A method is comprised of various steps, some of which are performed at a healthcare facility and some of which are performed at a distributor's facility. The steps performed at the healthcare facility may include: dispensing medical items from a decentralized storage location; automatically generating data representative of the dispensed items; transmitting the data to a central database; and automatically generating a purchase order from the data. At the distributor's facility, a resupply package containing the items identified in the purchase order is assembled and shipped to the healthcare facility. The resupply package may include items in their original manufacturer packaging. The resupply packages may also be organized so that each package carries items for one or a group of shelves or other storage locations at the healthcare facility. The resupply package may be a tote carrying a bar code that serves as an identifier of the contents of the tote and the location(s) to be replenished. The totes may be used to resupply or replenish a centralized restocking location at the healthcare facility. A system is also disclosed.